



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

9 October 2007

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

Last bulletin: October 4, 2007

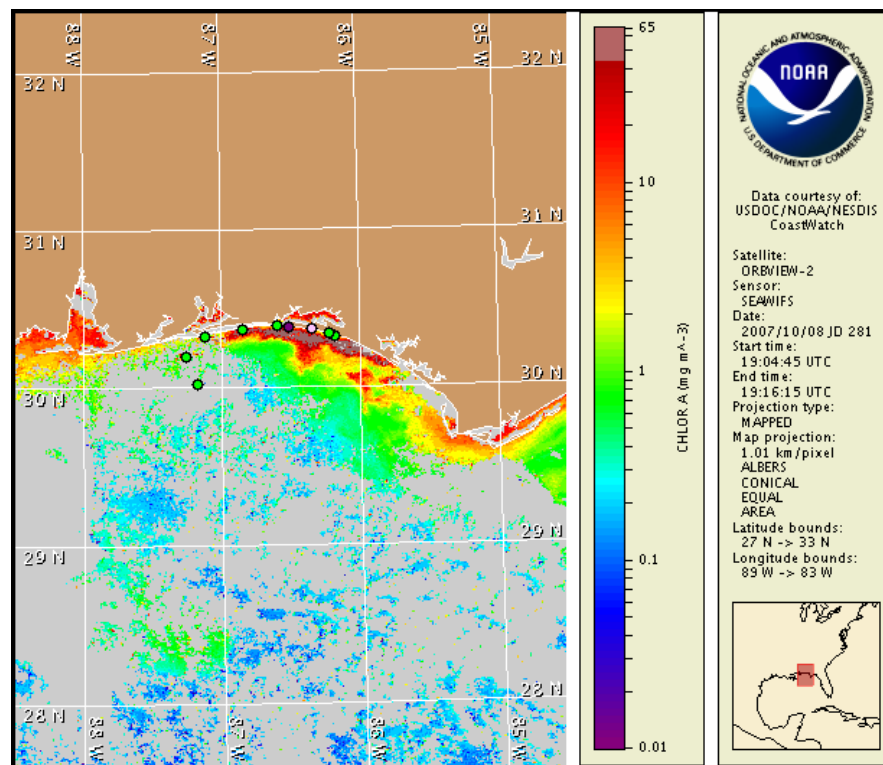
Conditions Report

A harmful algal bloom has been identified in Bay County along the Florida Panhandle. Patchy moderate to high impacts are possible on Wednesday, with patchy low impacts possible today and Thursday. Harmful algae has also been identified in Okaloosa and Walton Counties. Patchy very low impacts are possible in Okaloosa County on Wednesday, with no other impacts expected in either county through Thursday.

Analysis

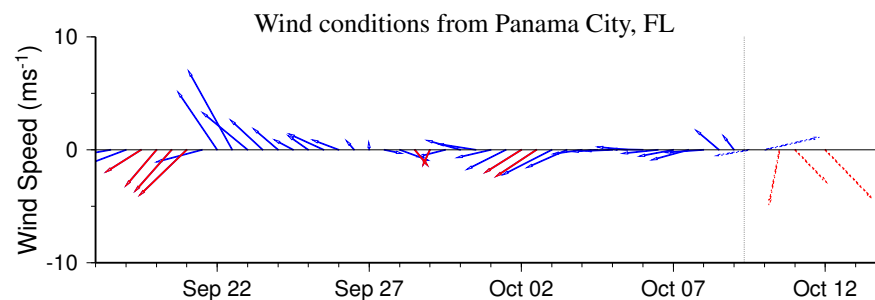
The harmful algal bloom persists in patches in the Western Florida Panhandle from Bay to Okaloosa County. Recent samples in Bay County indicate medium and high concentrations of *Karenia brevis* along the coast (FWRI, 10/8). Samples in Okaloosa County contained very low concentrations of *K. brevis*, while samples in Walton County contained only background concentrations (FWRI, 10/3). There have been several reports of fish kills and respiratory irritation in Bay and Walton Counties, including multiple fish kills reported in Panama City Beach. Satellite imagery from 10/8 indicates high chlorophyll levels (greater than $10 \mu\text{g/L}$) alongshore near $30^{\circ}8'41''\text{N}$, $85^{\circ}48'5''\text{W}$. Continued sampling is recommended both onshore from Bay to Okaloosa County and offshore Bay County. Onshore winds Wednesday may increase impacts along the coast of Bay County. Minimal transport of the bloom is expected through Thursday.

~Keller, Allen



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from October 1 to 5 shown as red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue (very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). For a list of cell count data providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HABFS bulletin guide:

http://www.csc.noaa.gov/crs/habf/habfs_bulletin_guide.pdf

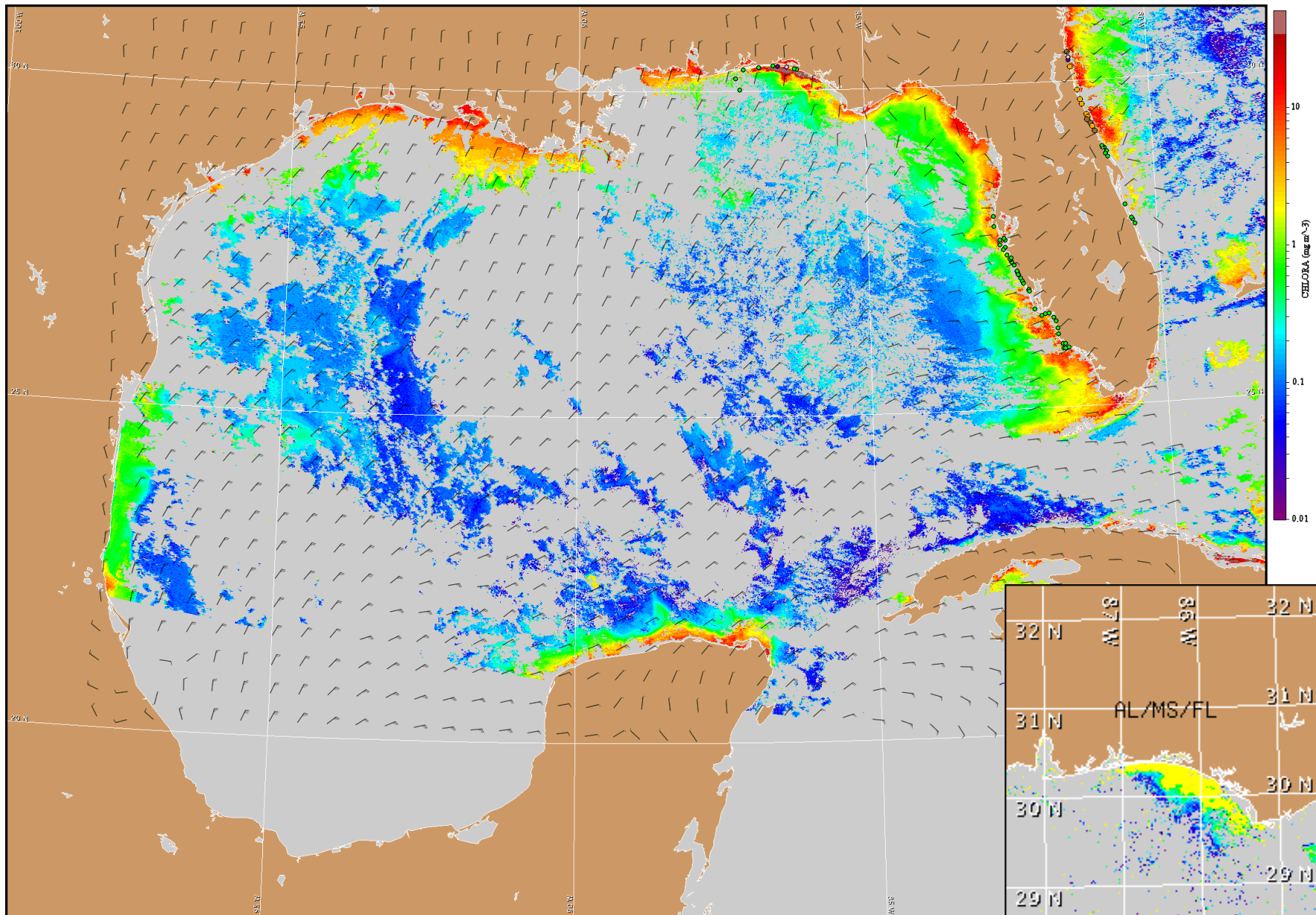


Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.

NW Florida: Northeasterly winds today (10-15 knots; 5-8 m/s), becoming onshore in the afternoon. Westerly winds on Wednesday (5-10 knots; 3-5 m/s), becoming northerly by Thursday (10-15 knots).

Please note the following restrictions on all SeaWiFS imagery derived from CoastWatch.

1. Data are restricted to civil marine applications only; i.e. federal, state, and local government use/distribution is permitted.
2. Image products may be published in newspapers. Any other publishing arrangements must receive GeoEye approval via the CoastWatch Program.



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for October 10, 2007 12Z with Cell concentration sampling data from October 1 to 5 shown as red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue(very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). For a list of cell count data providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HABFS bulletin guide: http://www.csc.noaa.gov/crs/habf/habfs_bulletin_guide.pdf

Verified and suspected HAB areas shown in red. Other areas of high chlorophyll concentration shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).

Wind conditions from Tyndall AFB Tower C

